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AP Literature and Composition

Six-Word Memoir

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**Teenage fears in high school years**

These six words express the culmination of the past four years for high school seniors. We are coming closer to the end of our teen years, a time period which many will claim to be both the best and worst time of our lives. Our teenage fears include being high on the social ladder, making varsity sports teams, earning straight A’s in classes created for overachievers, finding and losing high schools sweethearts, and many others. In these high school years, we have discovered true friends and unfortunately enemies, but most importantly we have discovered who we are. We’ve identified ourselves as the braniacs, the jocks, the band geeks and the theater nerds, or some of us are just a mish-mosh of characters. However the greatest fears of all don’t come about until this final year when we are unaware of not who we are, but of what we will become. All of our immature teenage frights have prepared us for the ultimate fear of not knowing what is to become of us in the next stage of our lives.

The words ‘teenage’ and ‘high school’ can almost be used synonymously, hence providing a double impact of this time period in the six word memoir. Teenagers are at a growing stage in their lives, just as high school is the primary setting of this growth. Although teenage and high school years are often a great deal of fun, they always come with drama, hardships, and more drama. Fear bookends the time spent in high school; at the beginning there is the fear of being shoved into walls and lockers by upperclassmen, and at the end there is great fear of the future.